

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 164786

53

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

09

DRAFTED BY:NEA:SSOBER

APPROVED BY:NEA:SSOBER

S/S-PSHANKLE

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O 121731Z JUL 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 164786

NODIS

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO JIDDA INFO SECSTATE DTG Z O 120131Z JUL

75

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN BONN

QUOTE

SECRET SECTO 06047

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, LE

SUBJECT: MORGAN ABDUCTION

1. YOU SHOULD SEE THAT FOLLOWING LETTER FROM ME IS  
DELIVERED WITH UTMOST URGENCY TO KING KHALID.

BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR MAJESTY:

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AS YOU KNOW, AN OFFICER OF THE U.S. ARMY, COLONEL ERNEST

R. MORGAN, WAS ABDUCTED IN BEIRUT ON JUNE 29 BY A GROUP CALLING ITSELF THE "REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST ACTION ORGANIZATION." THIS GROUP HAS THREATENED TO EXECUTE COLONEL MORGAN UNLESS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AGREES TO VARIOUS DEMANDS, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF A SUBSTANTIAL RANSOM IN KIND. THE GROUP HAS THREATENED TO CARRY OUT THIS EXECUTION BY 9:00 PM BEIRUT TIME ON SATURDAY JULY 12 IF ITS DEMANDS ARE NOT MET.

REGARDING THE DEMAND FOR PAYMENT OF RANSOM, IT IS THE FIRM POLICY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT TO PAY RANSOM. WE BELIEVE THAT GIVING IN TO SUCH PRESSURE WOULD ENCOURAGE OTHER TERRORISTS TO INDULGE IN SIMILAR ACTS, THUS ESCALATING THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE AND CREATING POTENTIALLY ENORMOUS NEW PROBLEMS. I BELIEVE YOU WILL AGREE WITH OUR VIEW ON THIS POINT.

ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS, GIVEN THE LONG-STANDING VERY CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND IN LIGHT OF THE REVERED POSITION OF LEADERSHIP WHICH YOU HOLD IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD, YOUR MAJESTY, I APPEAL TO YOU ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT FORD AND MYSELF TO SEE WHETHER YOU COULD BE HELPFUL IN THE MATTER OF COLONEL MORGAN. I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY HOW THE GROUP WHICH IS HOLDING HIM WOULD REACT TO AN APPEAL FROM YOU FOR HIS RELEASE UNHARMED. BUT I BELIEVE IT ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT THEY WOULD GIVE HEED TO AN APPEAL FOR REASON AND SET COLONEL MORGAN FREE, IF SUCH AN APPEAL WERE MADE BY A PERSON HOLDING THE UNIQUE POSITION OF YOUR MAJESTY.

PRESIDENT FORD AND I TRUST THAT YOU WILL APPRECIATE THE VERY EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LEAD ME TO ADDRESS THIS MESSAGE TO YOU. ON BEHALF OF US BOTH I SEND YOU WARMEST GREETINGS AND WISHES FOR YOUR HEALTH AND ALL SUCCESS.

SINCERELY, HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT

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2. IN DELIVERY LETTER, YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT KING KHALID IS THE ONLY CHIEF OF STATE TO WHOM USG IS ADDRESSING AN APPEAL ON THIS MATTER.  
KISSINGER  
UNQUOTE  
INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, CAT-B, TERRORISTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MORGAN ABDUCTION  
**TAGS:** PINS, LE, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (MORGAN, ERNEST R), (KHALID)  
**To:** BEIRUT  
**Type:** TE  
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